



Winter 1995

# The Ames Intelligencer

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## "These Joints Are Jumpin' - Museums For A New Century"

Annual Meeting, Sunday, March 26, 1995, 4pm, Public Library

Jerome Thompson, Museum Director for the State Historical Society of Iowa will inspire members at the Association's annual meeting on Sunday, March 26, 4 pm at the Public Library Auditorium. To help stimulate our thinking as we begin inquiries into establishing a museum, the featured speaker will present a national "tour" of innovative museums from around the country and will answer questions. Thompson is an Ames High and ISU graduate, and received a masters degree in archaeology from Texas Tech. at Lubbock. See you at the meeting!

## "Start Small, But Don't Think Small"

That was advice given to Ames Heritage Association and Ames Foundation organizers at the first town meeting to explore the question, "Should Ames have a museum?"

Long a dream of both the Association and the Foundation, members and area citizens gathered on September 26 in City Council Chambers to test interest in starting a museum. Attendees were asked to share their thoughts on these five basic questions: What kind of museum should Ames have? What should it collect? Where could/should it be located? How would a museum be supported? What resources exist in the City Of Ames?

The fifty to sixty people in attendance expressed a wide array of ideas and concerns, and were unanimous in their support of establishing a museum.

Several themes emerged from this first meeting:

- interest in a well-planned, well-supported institution;
- interest in preserving archives and objects from the central Iowa area - not just Ames;
- interest in a hands-on, living museum with a substantive and lively educational program;
- interest in an accessible facility with plenty of parking;
- interest in combining historical efforts with other related organizations to create a cultural center which focuses on the past, the present and the future..

At a second meeting held on November 14, four study groups were formed:

**Mission Statement Group** - will survey institutions across the country to see if there are models already in existence from which we could borrow. Rich Harter of the Convention/ Visitor's Bureau will chair.

**Collections Assessment Group** will survey what collections exist in the Ames area which currently need or will need accommodation. Janet Klaas of the Public Library will chair.

**Cultural Organizations Group** - will query existing area groups about interest in joining forces to create a historical & cultural center. Ames Heritage Board will chair.

**Facilities Group** - will seek information on the physical characteristics of several suggested locations.

David Rehbein of the American Legion will chair.

While a number of other issues will require study as time goes on, these groups will begin their explorations and other groups will be formed when the process requires this information. Any Ames Heritage Association member inter-

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ested in actively working on this project is invited to write to the Association at Box 821, Ames, Iowa 50010 or call AHA President, Kathy Svec at 515-232-4877, evenings.

The next meeting of the museum interest group will be Thursday, February 2, 7:30pm, Ames Public Library Auditorium.

*How far can our imaginations go? We'd like to find out!*

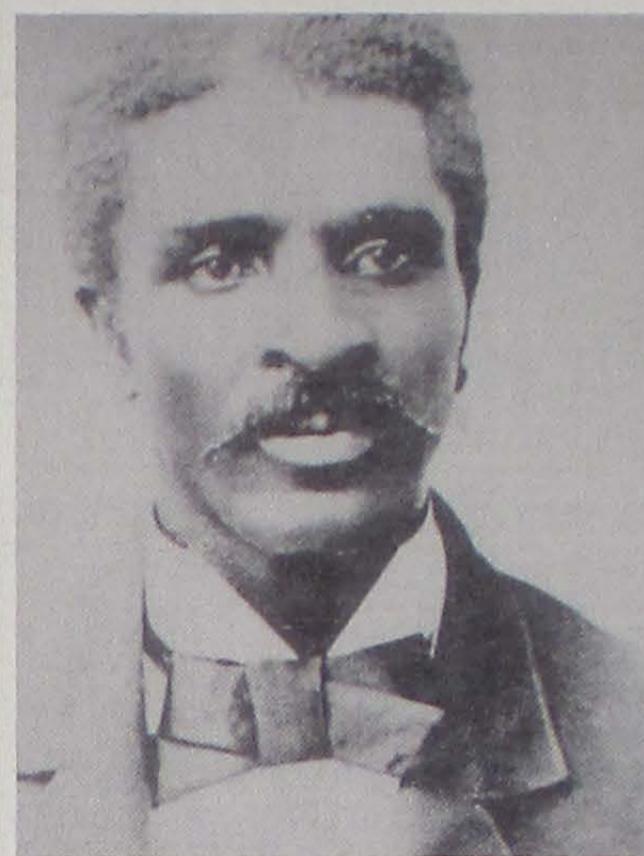
## Sesquicentennial Plans

Planning continues for Story County's celebration of Iowa's Sesquicentennial (150th birthday) according to Priscilla Matt, chair of the Story County Sesquicentennial Commission. A representative from each of the 15 communities in Story County is involved. Story County's contribution to the statewide quilt has already been finished by Carol Knutson, Dixie Lickteig and Pat Wood. Each county will create a quilt block shaped like their county. These pieces will be put together and displayed around the state, finishing up at the State Historical Building in Des Moines. Story County Excursion Days are being planned locally.

Additionally, Iowa 150 Bike Ride from Memorial Day to Labor Day will feature Chuck Offenburger and 300 Iowans riding from Long Beach, California to Washington, D.C. The 1996 Smithsonian Folklife Festival will be restaged in Iowa from August 22-25 in 1996. Work is being done to create a six-week course in Iowa history to be used in the public schools statewide.

Special efforts are also being made to collect oral histories using a camcorder. If you would like to become involved or need more information about any of these activities call Matt at 232-7688.

Sesquicentennial activities are funded by the specially-designed license plates commemorating Iowa's 150th birthday. Each county receives a portion directly from the sales. These plates also make a nice keepsake. Buy yours today and help fund this special event.

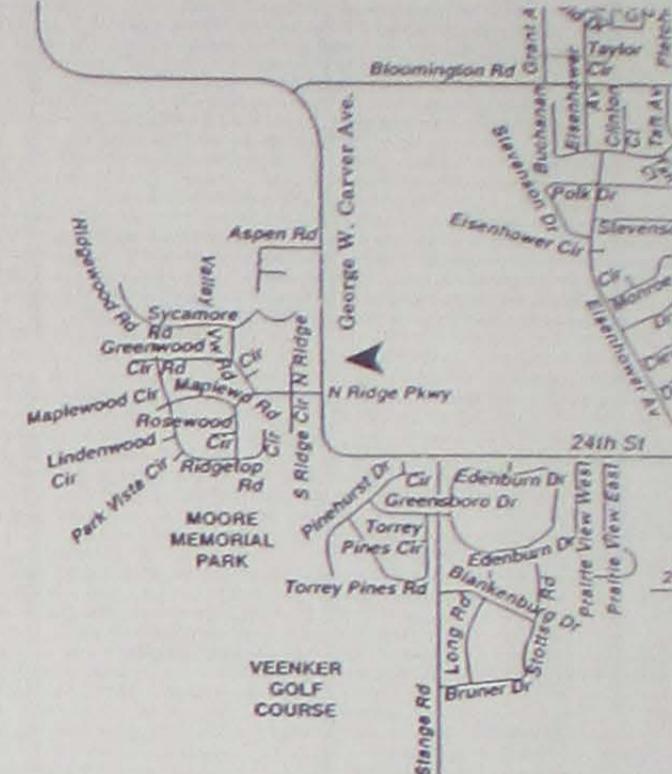


*George W. Carver Avenue was dedicated in November to honor distinguished ISU alumni George Washington Carver. The former R-50 in Northwest Ames joins the agricultural areas surrounding the city and the university where Carver pursued his research.*

The name of the distinguished research scientist with Iowa State connections will now be remembered daily as drivers navigate the former R-50 in NW Ames. The final event in the 1894-1994 Dr. George Washington Carver Centennial Celebration was the naming of George W. Carver Avenue on November 3rd. Carver Avenue,

## Dedication of George W. Carver Avenue

*This map shows the location of recently-named George W. Carver Avenue.*



which leaves the city to the north, joins the agricultural areas surrounding Ames and the university where Carver pursued his research - an appropriate symbol. Regena Zagarian of the Carver Campaign Committee, introduced speakers at the dedication event representing ISU, student government, the Iowa Legislature, Veishea, Faculty Senate, Ames City Council and County Supervisors. A commemorative program highlighted Carver's life and career, the products he developed, and poems and quotes favored by him.

## Recent Donations

Ames Community Arts Council archives, donated by the Arts Council Board.

Records of the Mono Clan, started in 1906, donated by Lloyd Kurtz, Ames.

Two period books were given by Harry Svec, Ames.

A book of poems for the Bauge Home was sent by Helen Koch, a grand-daughter of Lars Bauge, Oswego, IL.

Bricks for the Bauge Home chimney were donated by Beth and Larry Johnson, Ames.

## Historic Home Tour a Great Success!

A beautiful fall day plus willing homeowners added up to big success for the Historic Home Tour 1994 on October 23rd. Grossing over \$3100 for the Association, the joint project of the Heritage Association and the Historic Old Town Association should net close to \$2500 for further work on the Baugé Log Home Restoration. The seven tour homes are owned by Jim and Deb Fisher, Denise Denton, Corly Petersen, Scott and Rachel Prohaska, Lee and Susan Poague, John and Joyce Packwood and Don and Sharon Wirth. Tour Committee members Bev Kudla, Lois Vohs, Sharon Wirth and Joan Baker were assisted by several Questers groups, and coffee was donated and catered by Burgie's Espresso Cafe, North Grand Mall. The Association gratefully thanks all those who contributed to the Home Tour.

## ❖ FACES AND PLACES ❖

Beach Avenue near the Iowa State Center is named for Spencer A. Beach, Vice-Dean of Agriculture at Iowa State and head of Horticulture and Forestry from 1905 to 1922. An 1887 graduate of the college and a student of renowned horticulturist Professor J.L. Budd, Beach worked in Texas and New York state before returning to Iowa where he saw an opportunity to put the breeding of fruits suited to the region on a scientific basis. His research in experiment station orchards in Ames, Council Bluffs and Charles City created trees which fit the climate of the upper Mississippi Valley and produced better fruit. His notable work in breeding new apple varieties won him international recognition with his election to the Royal Horticultural Society of London. Professor Beach also initiated the programs in forestry and genetics, nurturing these fields of study until they could develop into departments in their own right. Spencer Beach passed away in 1922 at the age of 62. It seems appropriate that the southern end of Beach Avenue should be



Beach Avenue, near Iowa State Center, is named after distinguished horticulturist Spencer A. Beach, Vice-Dean of Agriculture at ISU and head of Horticulture and Forestry from 1905 to 1922.

the site of ISU's new horticulture gardens, the Rieman Gardens.

## Time to Renew!

Heritage Association Members are reminded that the membership year runs from January to December. Please renew your membership by returning your check with the accompanying form.

Membership support this past year has contributed to the following projects:

- cosponsorship of the "Pull Up A Chair" program featuring slides and stories about Ames history with Farwell Brown.
- Maintenance and door replacement at Hoggatt School.
- Publishing of our newsletter *The Intelligencer* with stories of Ames history.
- Continued placement of historic displays in the city hall council chambers.
- Cosponsorship of several meetings and study groups exploring the idea of an Ames museum.

Memberships make up a significant portion of our annual income. Thank you for this important support.

Please enter my membership in the Ames Heritage Association:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone no. \_\_\_\_\_

Membership type (circle one):

Senior citizen/student	\$12.
Regular	15.
Business/organization	30.
Sustaining	100.
Life	1,000.

I am particularly interested in working on the following projects:

- |              |                            |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| Oral History | Bauge Home restoration     |
| Fund-raising | Hoggatt School maintenance |
| Board member | Historical research        |
| Newsletter   | Publicity                  |
| Other:       |                            |

Please make checks payable to:

Ames Heritage Association  
P.O. Box 821 • Ames, IA 50010

## Burgie's Hosts "Pull Up A Chair"

A cozy and comfortable atmosphere, hot coffee drinks and a good selection of stories from Farwell Brown was the scenario at North Grand Mall when Burgie's Espresso Cafe hosted "Pull Up A Chair" on August 28. Inspired by Farwell's recently published book, and feeling that more people would be fascinated by Ames history, Steve Burgason asked the Heritage Association and several Ames businesses to help sponsor the occasion. Two hundred captivated listeners enjoyed an hour of "True Tales and Tall Tales".

A.H.A. gratefully thanks Steve and Burgie's, as well as the Daily Tribune, KASI Radio, Heuss Printing, Acme Printing and Lynn Ekblad of Differentangles for an impressive donation of promotional time, advertising and printed materials for the program. Wall to Wall Graphics also donated framing, matting and museum mounting of the handsome poster designed by Ekblad, which will remain in the Association's collection.

Steve Burgason and Burgie's has made a unique commitment to donate a percentage of sales from one of his coffee selections to support the Association's activities. We encourage all members to enjoy a tasty cup of something hot - often - from Burgie's when shopping at the Mall!



Approximately 200 people enjoyed the evening as Farwell Brown presented slides and told stories about Ames history.



Farwell Brown, left, Steve Burgason of Burgie's Espresso Cafe, and Kathy Svec, AHA president presented a warm welcome for those attending the "Pull Up a Chair" held at the North Grand Mall.

**Museum Meeting**  
February 2, 7:30 p.m., Ames Public Library Auditorium  
See pages 1 and 2 for more information.

The Ames Intelligencer  
Ames Heritage Association  
P.O. Box 821  
Ames, Iowa 50010

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The Ames Heritage Association, a legally incorporated, not-for-profit organization is dedicated to promoting interest in state and local history through educational publications, programs and displays. The Board meets the 3rd Monday of each month, Sept. - June. Interested persons are welcome.

The Ames Intelligencer is named after an early community newspaper, and is published 3 times/year. Questions/comments may be directed to the Editor.

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